



RAAD VAN KERKEN IN NEDERLAND

Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations

att. Hryhorii Komendant, Chairman

by e-mail: info@vrciro.org.ua

Amersfoort, 25 February 2022

Dear members of the Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations,

May peace be upon you and the Ukrainian people!

With this salutation of all religious traditions in the world we want to express you our warm greetings and solidarity in these very dangerous and horrendous days for your country.

The Council of Churches in the Netherlands is a fellowship of 19 Christian Churches and Organizations. We maintain good relationships with the Jewish and Muslim communities in our country.

In the past weeks we have been praying for peace in the Eastern part of our common continent and our common home, Europe. Now that the Russian president, Mr. Putin, has decided to attack your country and your people, we feel the need to express you our deep sympathy and great concern. As members of the one body of Christ we experience the phenomenon that “if one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it” (1 Cor. 12.26a). We are thinking of you, your communities, and all the people of Ukraine.

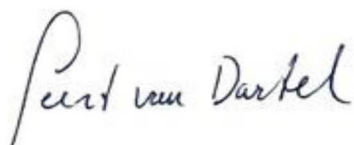
We pray that God may be with the Ukrainian people and its leaders: that a just and sustainable peace may rise out of conflict and violence. And we are asking our government to do its utmost – together with its partners in Europe and elsewhere – to contribute to all the efforts to restore peace in Eastern Europe and especially in your country.

We read your letter to Mr. Putin to stop the war and we solidarize with this message. Therefore, we also pray for the Russian leadership and the Russian people: that wisdom may prevail and that Russians and Ukrainians may be able to keep on considering each other as brothers and sisters. So that all peoples may be inspired to work on peace and justice for all.

United in our common prayers and wishes for peace,

with kind regards,

on behalf of the Council of Churches,



Geert van Dartel
Chairman



Christien Crouwel
General secretary